



TRAFFIC ALERT

VirginiaDOT.org

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE
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VDOT BRISTOL'S WEEKLY TRAFFIC ALERT: October 5 - 11, 2009

BRISTOL, Va. – In an effort to keep motorists informed, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) provides weekly information about highway construction and maintenance projects in southwestern Virginia. When traveling through highway work zones, use caution and be alert to changes in traffic patterns and slow-moving or stopped traffic.

Motorists face a maximum fine of \$500 for speeding in highway work zones. Law enforcement officers monitor highway work zones throughout the region.

INTERSTATE PROJECTS

*****Interstate 81 – paving:** Expect lane closures during daylight hours due to paving on Interstate 81 north and southbound near Exit 35 in Chilhowie. (Completion: October 2009)

*****Interstate 81 – guardrail and rumble strips:** Be alert to lane closures this week due to the installation of guardrail and rumble strips along southbound Interstate 81 between Exits 24 and 19 in Washington County. (Completion: October 2009)

*****Interstate 77 maintenance activities:** Anticipate lane closures due to the following maintenance activities on Interstate 77:

- Pothole patching along the I-77 corridor in Virginia.
- Bridge deck patching northbound near mile marker 62 in Bland County.

*****Interstates 81 maintenance activities:** The following maintenance activities are scheduled along Interstate 81 in southwestern Virginia this week:

- Guardrail repairs northbound near Exit 14 in Abingdon
- Pothole patching north and southbound in Washington, Smyth and Wythe counties.
- Bridge deck patching northbound near mile marker 15 in Abingdon, mile marker 58 in Smyth County and mile marker 83 in Wythe County.

PRIMARY HIGHWAYS AND HIGH TRAFFIC SECONDARY ROADS:

*****Pavement Markings - mobile, rolling work zones:** Be alert to a caravan of slow-moving trucks applying pavement markings on highways at various locations **in areas of Lee, Tazewell and Scott counties.**

Buchanan County

Route 460 Grundy – Phase II: Motorists should be alert to the possibility of lengthy delays on Route 460 in the Cow Town area in the coming weeks due to excavation and blasting work in the area. Pay close attention to flaggers directing traffic through the area.

The blasting and excavation work is part of the Phase II widening of Route 460 in Grundy, from the newly constructed section of Route 460 in downtown Grundy to Route 615 in the Cow Town area. (Completion: mid-November 2011)

Buchanan County- Water Line Installation: Work to install water lines in the following areas of Buchanan County will restrict traffic to one lane during daylight hours:

- Route 601 – Convict Hollow (Completion: fall 2009)
- Route 655 – Lynn Camp (Completion: September 2009)

Dickenson County

*****Route 652 (Neely Ridge):** Due to a slope stabilizing project, anticipate lengthy delays on Route 652 (Neely Ridge) in Dickenson County through **October 5 (excluding weekends)**. The work will be between the intersections of Mill Creek and Turkey Branch roads. Motorists should consider alternate routes while work is underway. **(Completion: October 5, 2009)**

Route 658 (Flat Spur Road): Motorists may experience delays on a section of Route 658 (Flat Spur Road) in Dickenson County due to a road widening project. The project extends 1.43 miles on Route 658 to the intersection of Route 800. Be alert to flaggers directing traffic during daylight hours. (Completion: May 2010)

Water line installation – various routes: Be alert to periodic lane closures on various secondary routes throughout Dickenson County due to the Big Caney III and IV and the Multi-Community water line installation projects. (Completion: summer 2010)

Grayson County

*****Route 815 (Tanglewood Road):** Due to repairs, the Route 815 (Tanglewood Road) bridge over Stevens Creek in Grayson County will be closed to through traffic from Tuesday October 13 at 9 a.m. through Thursday, October 15 at 5 p.m. The bridge is located .16-mile from Route 94 and .13 miles from Route 647. (Completion: October 15, 2009)

Route 58 bridge repairs: Due to bridge repairs, traffic is being controlled by signals on the Route 58 bridge over Peach Bottom Creek located just east of Independence in Grayson County. The bridge is restricted to one 14-foot-wide lane during repairs. Use caution in this area. (Completion: May 2010)

Route 842 (Twin Pond Road): Be alert to the possibility of lane closures due to improvements along a section of Route 842 (Twin Pond Road) in the Fries area. (Completion: December 2009)

Route 748 (Laurel Creek Road): Be alert to the possibility of lane closures due to improvements along a section of Route 748 (Laurel Creek Road) in the Rugby area. (Completion: December 2009)

Lee County

Alternate Route 58: Due to a bridge reconstruction project, signals are controlling one 12-foot-wide lane across the Alternate Route 58 bridge over the North Powell River in Pennington Gap. Use caution in this area and pay close attention to signs in the work zone. (Completion: November 2009)

Russell County

Route 618: A section of Route 618 in the Rabbit Ridge section of Russell County has been closed to allow Paramount Coal Company Virginia LLC to perform surface mine operations in the area. The 0.4-mile section begins about one-mile east of Route 600 and extends eastward. When the mining operations are complete, Paramount Coal Company Virginia LLC will rebuild the closed section of Route 618, eliminating steep grades and sharp curves along the existing section of Route 618.

Russell County- Water Line Installation: Work to install water lines is underway on Route 657 (Green Valley Road). Use caution and be alert to traffic restrictions during daylight hours. (Completion: November 2009)

Smyth County

Route 622 (Nick's Creek Road): Due to a project to widen and replace a bridge on Route 622 (Nick's Creek Road) in Smyth County, a section of the route is closed to traffic. Motorists can detour around the project by using Kelly Hill Road, Pierce Road, Big Prater Road and Route 16. Motorists are advised to use caution in this area and pay close attention to detour signs. (Completion: December 1, 2009)

Route 11 – bridge replacement: Traffic signals are controlling one-lane traffic on Route 11 at the west end of Chilhowie due to a bridge replacement project. Use caution in this area. (Completion: July 2010)

Tazewell County

Route 19/460 bridge project: Two-way traffic through the Route 19/460 bridge work zone has been shifted to the southbound lanes. The Lake Street entrance to Route 19/460 is temporarily detoured onto Post Street due to the construction. Additionally, the entrance to Quarry Road will be temporarily detoured through the Miner's Oil entrance. There will be a 12-foot-width

restriction in the work zone. (Completion: October 2009)

Wise County

Route 23 – cross-over project: A cross-over project is underway on Route 23 at J.W. Adams Combined School, causing daytime lane closures in the work zone. In the coming weeks, southbound traffic will be diverted to one of the northbound lanes and traffic will be separated by concrete barriers. There is a 14-foot width restriction during construction. The speed limit in the work zone is 45 miles per hour. (Completion: August 2010)

Alternate Route 58 – water and sewer line installation: Motorists may experience periodic lane closures on Alternate Route 58 between St. Paul and Virginia City and between Carfax and Virginia City due to water and sewer line installation projects. (Completion: December 2009)

Route 78 bridge: Traffic crossing the Route 78 bridge over Callahan Creek at Appalachia is being controlled by signals. The bridge has been reduced to one 12-foot-lane while the superstructure is being replaced. (Completion: November 2009)

Wythe County

Route 649 (Atkins Mill Road): Be alert to the possibility of lane closures on a section of Route 649 (Atkins Mill Road) in the Wytheville area due to roadway improvements. (Completion: December 2009)

Route 100 bridge and Route 637 (Greenbriar Road): Due to bridge repairs, the Route 100 bridge over Little Reed Island Creek has been restricted to one 12-foot-wide lane and traffic signals are controlling traffic on both ends of the bridge. Route 637 (Greenbriar Road) in Wythe County has been closed due to the bridge project. Route 100 can be accessed from Route 637 about 1.5-miles south of the bridge project (Completion: May 2010)

Completion

Interstate 81 – guardrail: Work to install rumble strips and perform shoulder work on Interstate 81 between Exit 60 and the Smyth/Wythe County has been completed.

Route 625 – Burkes Garden area: A bridge deck replacement project on Route 625 in the Burkes Garden area of Tazewell County has been completed.

(END)